

## **CHANGE BEGINS WITH THE SMALLEST MEMBER!**

**Rom 6:13** *And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*

The book of Romans is the Genesis of the New Testament. In this book Paul lays out the foundational teaching to the church on living the Christian life. In this book he teaches that we were identified in the person of Jesus Christ. Not only did Jesus die for us, but He died as us as our representative. What happened to Him happened to us. In Romans chapter six Paul brings this out. He enumerates several principles we must grasp in order to live a victorious Christian life. The first thing Paul mentions in chapter six of Romans is that we must first know something!

**Rom 6:6** **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.**

The first principle of victorious Christian living is based upon knowing something. We must know that our old man-the old sinner we used to be in Adam- was crucified with Christ! Jesus went to the cross and identified himself with humanity. He took upon Himself not only all the sins of humanity but also the Adamic sin nature and died to it. When He died as our representative we died in Him! [**2 Cor. 5:14**] We must know this! This knowledge comes by revelation of the Spirit of God. We must ask and believe for revelation of **Romans 6:6**. The old sinner you used to be that was bound to sin, habits, and bondages died with Jesus Christ. This is a fact not to be felt, but believed my friend! Feeling will come after believing! The next thing that Paul mentions in Romans six that we must understand to walk in victory is that we must count upon what we know! We can know something and not count upon it!

**Romans 6:11** **Thus, also, as for you, you be constantly counting upon the fact that, on the one hand, you are those who have been**

**separated from the sinful nature, and, on the other, that you are living ones with respect to God in Christ Jesus. [Wuest]**

We are to count upon what we know. We are to constantly be counting on the fact that we have died to the control of sin and bondage in the person of Jesus Christ! We are now alive unto God and have the life and nature of God being supplied to our re-born spirit. In our born again spirit we are partakers of the divine nature! [1 Peter 1:4] What is true of the character of Jesus is true of us in our spirit! We are a spirit that has a soul, which lives in a body. [1 Thess. 5:23] We are to count upon the life of Jesus Christ within us to live the Christian life. How are we to practically do this? How is the life of Christ lived out in us? To do this we must act upon our faith and what we know!

**Rom 6:13** And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

The next thing we need to understand is that we must act upon what we know and believe. We are to actively present our members unto God as being alive from the dead! How are we to do this? **It starts by yielding our smallest member to God first.** If we will yield our smallest member to God, then all of the other members will follow suit! Our actions will follow our tongue! What is our smallest member?

**Jas 3:5** Even so the tongue is a little member, and it can boast of great things. See how much wood or how great a forest a tiny spark can set ablaze!

God has placed our tongue as the controlling force and member to all our other members and to give direction to our lives! James tells us that if we can control our tongue, then we can control our whole body [or every other member]!

**Jas 3:2** For we all often stumble and fall and offend in many things. And if anyone does not offend in speech [*never says the wrong things*], he is a fully developed character and a perfect man, able to control his whole body and to curb his entire nature.

We are to present our members to God for His use. This process begins by submitting your tongue to God and to say what He says! Humility begins with agreeing with God. God gives grace to the humble! [James 4:6] God's grace is His ability! Jesus gave us a spiritual principle:

**Luk 16:10 He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.**

If we will be faithful in the small then we will be faithful in the much! If we will be faithful to use our tongue to only speak what God has said, then we will see great changes take place in our life! We must present our members to God to see changes take place in our life and to see the life and nature of God in us to be released outwardly. We have sufficient holiness, power, and love in us to see our lives and the lives of others transformed! This life and nature of God must be released! To do this it begins by presenting the smallest member we have to God. **What have you been saying about yourself?** Have you saying you are bound to a certain habit or sin? Have you been saying that you can't stop doing so and so? Then you are not presenting your members to God. God has said in His Word that you are free from sin and you are holy and you are free! Have you been agreeing with God? When we consistently present our tongue and say only what God says no matter what we feel or experience then before long we will start to see changes take place. We will start to see our emotions, thoughts, beliefs, and actions change. We will start experiencing the life of God that is inside of us being released on the outside of us.

I challenge you for three weeks to only say what God says about you in the area you struggle in the most. No matter what you feel or experience decide to present you smallest member to God and proclaim what He says. For example if you struggle with smoking, every time you are tempted to smoke proclaim you are a non-smoker and you are free from smoking! Do this even if you smoke. As you light up say, "I am a non-smoker and I am free from smoking because of Jesus! I am born again and it is not in my new nature to smoke!" Do this for any area you struggle in the most for three weeks. This is a three week challenge, not a week or two week

challenge. Present your tongue to God as alive from the dead and you will experience the sin-destroying life of God in your life!